

What conditions are currently screened in Mississippi?

Amino Acid Disorders

Endocrine Disorders

Fatty Acid Oxidation Disorders

Hemoglobin Disorders

- S, Beta-thalassemia (Hb S/βTh)
- Hemoglobinopathies (Var Hb)
- S, C disease (Hb S/C)
- Sickle cell anemia (Hb SS)

Lysosomal Storage Disease

- Pompe

Other Disorders

- Biotinidase deficiency (BIOT)
- Cystic fibrosis (CF)
- Galactokinase deficiency (GALK)
- Classic galactosemia (GALT)
- Severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID)
- Galactosepimerase deficiency (GALE)
- T-cell related lymphocyte deficiencies

Point of Service Screening (No blood required)

- Newborn hearing
- Critical Congenital Heart Disease (CCHD)

Please see our website for the complete list of the disorders at www.HealthyMS.com.

The Mississippi Newborn Screening Program is a service coordinated by the Mississippi State Department of Health for families with newborn babies. Comments on this brochure are welcome. Please write to:

Bureau of Genetic Services
Post Office Box 1700
Jackson, Mississippi 39215-1700



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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Newborn Screening

What is Newborn Screening?

Newborn screening refers to a dried blood-spot screening test that is performed on newborns before they are discharged from the hospital. The screening is done before discharge to identify babies who may be at risk for a serious condition that may not otherwise be detected for several days, months, or even years. Only additional testing (diagnostic or confirmatory testing) can tell if the baby actually has a disorder.

When and how is the screening test done?

The screening specimen is usually collected between 24 and 48 hours of age. A few drops of blood are taken by pricking the baby’s heel and dropping blood onto a special screening card. The hospital will send the card to the screening laboratory.

Why should my baby have the screening?

The conditions screened for in babies are individually rare, but may require immediate treatment such as medications or special diets. Babies with these conditions can often appear normal after birth, but without treatment a baby could develop serious medical problems or even die. The newborn screening helps to identify these babies in a timely manner.

Newborn screening may not always detect a disorder. If your baby does not seem well, talk to your baby’s physician as soon as possible.

My baby looks healthy. Is this screening still necessary?

Yes! Most babies with a condition found by newborn screening show no signs of the condition right after birth, but they can usually be identified before the baby becomes sick. Babies with a condition will need special medical care to minimize permanent physical or developmental harm.

May I refuse the screening test?

The law (MS Statute 41-21-201) states that all babies born in Mississippi must be screened prior to discharge from the hospital regardless of the age of the baby or the feeding status. As a parent, you may refuse newborn screening only if your religious beliefs and practices do not allow this testing. If you refuse to have the screening performed on your baby, you may be asked by the hospital to sign a form stating you refused to have your baby screened for these very serious conditions. This form will go in your baby’s hospital medical record.

Is there a fee for the screening test?

A fee for the screening is billed to the hospital where your baby was born.

Will I be told the newborn screening test results?

Results are mailed to the hospital of birth. The physician of record is notified of any abnormal screening results by the Mississippi State Department of Health. It is very important that the hospital have the parent’s correct last name, physical address, and telephone number. Your baby’s physician can request the screening results from the hospital or call the Mississippi State Department of Health’s Genetic Services Program. Ask your baby’s physician about the screening results at the first well-baby check up.

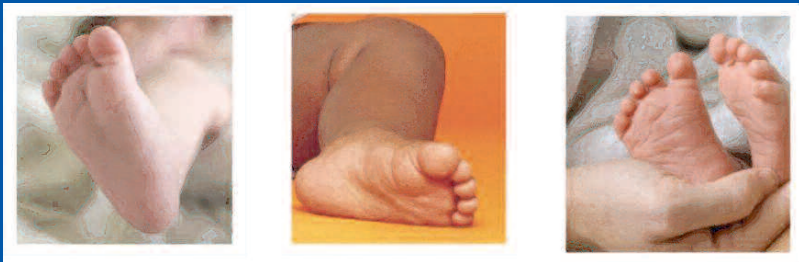
If a repeat screening is requested, does it mean my baby may have a condition?

Not necessarily. Your baby’s doctor or a program follow-up coordinator will contact you if your baby needs further testing. They will tell you why more tests are needed and what to do next. A retest does not necessarily mean that your baby is sick, but it does mean that more testing is needed to be sure that your baby is healthy.

If you are asked to have your baby retested, please act quickly, so the repeat test can be done immediately.

Can these conditions be cured?

There is no known cure for these conditions. The serious effects of these conditions can be lessened if a special diet, medical treatment, or other intervention is started early.



Educational Material Provided

Every infant born in the State of Mississippi is tested for rare, treatable disorders. The hospital provides the parents/guardian with an educational pamphlet to inform them about the testing and also addresses some of the most common questions asked about Newborn Screening. Signing below indicates that the facility where your baby was born provided you with the pamphlet.

On ____/____/____, I _____
(Date) (Parent or Guardian)

was provided with an educational pamphlet about Newborn Screening.

Witness: _____

Date: ____/____/____

Facility Staff:
Remove proof of documentation that educational material was provided and place in patient record.